In the Claims

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A method for use in a computer system including a plurality of devices each having a first identifier that uniquely identifies the respective device, a shared resource shared by the plurality of devices, and a network that couples the plurality of devices to the shared resource, the network assigning a second identifier to each of the plurality of devices, the second identifier indicating a port of at least one network component through which the respective device accesses the network, the method including acts of:

(a)   in response to one of the plurality of devices attempting to access the shared resource and representing itself to the shared resource as a first device using the first identifier, determining, using the second identifier, whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a first [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component used by the first device to access the shared resource; and

(b)   when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the shared resource through a [[connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], denying the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource.

2.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices is an attempt to login to the shared resource, and wherein the act (b) includes an act of:

when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], denying the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource.

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3.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the network is a Fibre Channel fabric, wherein the one of the plurality of devices and the first device each has an assigned world wide name (WWN) <u>as the first identifier</u> and a fabric identifier (fabric ID) <u>as the second identifier</u>;

wherein the method further includes a step of storing the WWN and the fabric ID of the first device in response to an access by the first device to the shared resource; and

wherein the act (a) is performed in response to an access, that occurs after the access by the first device, by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource and includes acts of:

examining a value of the WWN presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself as being the first device;

comparing a value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored fabric ID for the first device; and

determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] <u>port of</u> the <u>at least one</u> network <u>component</u> that is different than the first <u>port</u> [[physical connection]] when the value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored fabric ID for the first device.

4.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the network employs a protocol wherein [[the one of the plurality of devices and the first device each has a]] <u>the</u> first identifier [[that]] uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and [[a]] <u>the</u> second identifier [[that]] uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is dependent upon the physical configuration of the computer system;

wherein the method further includes a step of storing the first and second identifiers of the first device in response to an access by the first device to the shared resource; and

wherein the act (a) is performed in response to an access, that occurs after the access by the first device, by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource and includes acts of:

examining a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the plurality of

devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is

representing itself to be the first device;

comparing a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of

devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device; and

determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the shared

resource through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network

component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]] when the value of the

second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored

value of the second identifier for the first device.

5.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the shared resource is a storage

system;

wherein the act (a) includes an act of, in response to the one of the plurality of devices

attempting to access the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as the first

device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage

system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is

different than a first [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that

the first device uses to access the storage system; and

wherein the act (b) includes an act of, when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the

plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection

through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical

connection]], denying the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage

system.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by the storage

system.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed outside of the storage system.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by a device disposed between the storage system and the network.

9.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the network is a Fibre Channel fabric, wherein the one of the plurality of devices and the first device each has an assigned world wide name (WWN) <u>as the first identifier</u> and a fabric identifier (fabric ID) <u>as the second identifier</u>;

   wherein the method further includes a step of storing the WWN and the fabric ID of the first device in response to a login by the first device to the shared resource; and

   wherein the act (a) is performed in response to a login attempt, that occurs after the login by the first device, by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource and includes acts of:

     examining a value of the WWN presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself as being the first device;

     comparing a value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored fabric ID for the first device; and

     determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] <u>port of</u> the <u>at least one</u> network <u>component</u> that is different than the first <u>port</u> [[physical connection]] when the value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored fabric ID for the first device.

10.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

   wherein the act (a) includes an act of, in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as the first

device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a first [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component used by the first device to access the storage system; and

wherein the act (b) includes an act of, when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], denying the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by the storage system.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by a device disposed between the storage system and the network.

13.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the network employs a protocol wherein the [[one of the plurality of devices and the first device each has a]] first identifier [[that]] uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and [[a]] the second identifier [[that]] uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is dependent upon the physical configuration of the computer system;

wherein the method further includes a step of storing the first and second identifiers of the first device in response to a login by the first device to the shared resource; and

wherein the act (a) is performed in response to a login request, that occurs after the login by the first device, by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource and includes acts of:

examining a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device;

comparing a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device; and

determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]] when the value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the second identifier for the first device.

14.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

wherein the act (a) includes an act of, in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as the first device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a first [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component used by the first device to access the storage system; and

wherein the act (b) includes an act of, when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], denying the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by the storage system.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by a device disposed between the storage system and the network.

17.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

wherein the act (a) includes an act of, in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to access the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as a first device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a physical connection [[through]] to the at least one network component that is different than a first physical connection through the network used by the first device to access the storage system; and

wherein the act (b) includes an act of, when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], denying the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by the storage system.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by a device disposed between the storage system and the network.

20.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

wherein the act (a) includes an act of, in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to access the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as a first device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a first [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component used by the first device to access the storage system; and

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wherein the act (b) includes an act of, when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], denying the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

21.   (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by the storage system.

22.   (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by a device disposed between the storage system and the network.

23.   (Currently amended) A method for use in a computer system including a plurality of devices, a storage system shared by the plurality of devices, and a network that couples the plurality of devices to the storage system, wherein the network employs a protocol wherein each of the plurality of devices has a first identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and a second identifier that uniquely identifies [[the device in a manner that is dependent upon the physical configuration of the computer system]] a port of at least one network component through which the respective device accesses the network, the method including acts of:

        (a)   in response to a login of a first device of the plurality of devices to the storage system, storing the first and second identifiers of the first device;

        (b)   in response to an attempt, subsequent to the act (a), by one of the plurality of devices to login to the storage system while representing itself to the storage system as the first device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a first [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component used by the first device to login to the storage system in the act (a), including acts of;

(b1)   examining a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the plurality

of devices to the storage system to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is

representing itself to be the first device;

(b2)   comparing a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the

plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device; and

(b3)   determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to

the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network

component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]] when the value of the

second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored

value of the second identifier for the first device; and

(c)   when it is determined in the act (b3) that the one of the plurality of devices is

attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at

least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], denying the

attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

24.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the network is a Fibre Channel

fabric, wherein the first identifier is a world wide name (WWN) and the second identifier is a fabric

identifier (fabric ID);

wherein the act (a) includes an act of, in response to a login of first device to the storage

system, storing the WWN and the fabric ID of the first device;

wherein the act (b1) includes an act of examining a value of the WWN presented by the one

of the plurality of devices to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself

to be the first device;

wherein the act (b2) includes an act of comparing a value of the fabric ID presented by the

one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the fabric ID for the first device; and

wherein the act (b3) includes an act of determining that the one of the plurality of devices is

attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at

least one network component that is different than first port [[physical connection]] when the value

of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the fabric ID for the first device.

25.   (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by the storage system.

26.   (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the acts (a) and (b) are performed by a device disposed between the storage system and the network.

27.   (Currently amended) A method for use in a computer system including a network and a plurality of devices coupled to the network, the network employing a protocol wherein each of the plurality of devices has a first identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and a second identifier that uniquely identifies a port on at least one network component at which the respective device is connected [[the device in a manner that is dependent upon the physical configuration of the computer system]], the [[network including]] at least one network component [[that assigns]] assigning a unique value for the second identifier to each of the plurality of devices that is logged into the network, the method including acts of:

        (a)   in response to one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the network and representing itself to the network as a first device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the network through a port on the at least one network component that is different than a first port of the at least one network component through which the first device previously logged into the network; and

        (b)   when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the network through a port that is different than the first port, denying the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the network.

28.   (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the at least one network component includes at least one switch having a first switch port that forms the first port through which the first device previously logged into the network; and

wherein the act (a) includes an act of, in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the network and representing itself to the network as the first device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the network through a port different than the first switch port.

29.   (Original) The method of claim 27, further including an act of preventing at least one of the plurality of devices from transmitting information through the network while representing itself with a value for the second identifier that differs from its value assigned by the at least one network component.

30.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the network is a Fibre Channel fabric, wherein the first identifier is a world wide name (WWN) and the second identifier is a fabric identifier (fabric ID);

wherein the method further includes an act of, in response to the previous login of the first device into the network, storing the WWN and the fabric ID of the first device; and

wherein the act (a) includes acts of;

examining a value of the WWN presented by the one of the plurality of devices during the attempted login to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device;

comparing a value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the fabric ID for the first device; and

determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the network through a port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port when the value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the fabric ID for the first device.

31.   (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the method further includes an act of, in
response to the previous login of the first device into the network, storing the first and second
identifiers of the first device; and

       wherein the act (a) includes acts of;

              examining a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the plurality of
devices during the attempted login to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is
representing itself to be the first device;

              comparing a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of
devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device; and

              determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the
network through a port different than the first port when the value of the second identifier
presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the second
identifier for the first device.

32.   (Currently amended) An apparatus for use in a computer system including a plurality of
devices, a shared resource shared by the plurality of devices each having a first identifier that
uniquely identifies the respective device, and a network that couples the plurality of devices to the
shared resource, the network assigning a second identifier to each of the plurality of devices, the
second identifier indicating a port of at least one network component at which the respective device
is connected, the apparatus including:

       an input to be coupled to the network; and

       at least one controller, coupled to the input, that is responsive to one of the plurality of
devices attempting to access the shared resource while representing itself to the shared resource as a
first device via the first identifier, to determine, based at least in part on the second identifier,
whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the shared resource through a
[[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a
first [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component used by the first
device to access the shared resource, and to deny the attempted access by the one of the plurality of
devices to the shared resource when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is

attempting to access the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] <u>port of</u> the <u>at least one</u> network <u>component</u> that is different than the first <u>port</u> [[physical connection]].

33.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices is an attempt to login to the shared resource, and wherein the at least one controller denies the attempted login when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] <u>port of</u> the <u>at least one</u> network <u>component</u> that is different than the first <u>port</u> [[physical connection]].

34.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the network is a Fibre Channel fabric, wherein [[the one of the plurality of devices and the first device each has an assigned]] <u>the first identifier includes a</u> world wide name (WWN) and <u>the second identifier includes</u> a fabric identifier (fabric ID);

       wherein the apparatus further includes a storage device coupled to the at least one controller;

       wherein the at least one controller stores the WWN and the fabric ID of the first device in the storage device in response to an access by the first device to the shared resource; and

       wherein when the one of the plurality of devices attempts to access the shared resource after the access by the first device, the at least one controller:

              examines a value of the WWN presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself as being the first device;

              compares a value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored fabric ID for the first device; and

              determines that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] <u>port of</u> the <u>at least one</u> network <u>component</u> that is different than the first <u>port</u> [[physical connection]] when the value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored fabric ID for the first device.

35.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the network employs a protocol wherein the [[one of the plurality of devices and the first device each has a]] first identifier [[that]] uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and [[a]] the second identifier [[that]] uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is dependent upon the physical configuration of the computer system;

      wherein the apparatus further includes a storage device coupled to the at least one controller;

      wherein the at least one controller stores the first and second identifiers of the first device in the storage device in response to an access by the first device to the shared resource; and

      wherein when the one of the plurality of devices attempts to access the shared resource after the access by the first device, the at least one controller:

            examines a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device;

            compares a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device; and

            determines that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]] when the value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the second identifier for the first device.

36.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

      wherein in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to access the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as a first device, the at least one controller determines whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]]; and

wherein when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], the at least one controller denies the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

37.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 36, in combination with the storage system, wherein the at least one controller and the input each is disposed within the storage system.

38.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the at least one controller and the input each is disposed outside of the storage system.

39.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the apparatus includes a filter unit that includes the input and the at least one controller and is adapted to be disposed between the storage system and the network.

40.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the network is a Fibre Channel fabric, and wherein [[the one of the plurality of devices and the first device each has an assigned]] the first identifier includes a world wide name (WWN) and the second identifier includes a fabric identifier (fabric ID);

wherein the at least one controller stores the WWN and the fabric ID of the first device in response to a login by the first device to the shared resource; and

wherein when the one of the plurality of devices attempts to login to the shared resource after the login by the first device, the at least one controller:

examines a value of the WWN presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself as being the first device;

compares a value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored fabric ID for the first device; and

determines that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]] when the value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored fabric ID for the first device.

41.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

wherein in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as a first device, the at least one controller determines whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]]; and

wherein when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], the at least one controller denies the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

42.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 41, in combination with the storage system, wherein the at least one controller and the input each is disposed within the storage system.

43.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the apparatus includes a filter unit that includes the input and the at least one controller and is adapted to be disposed between the storage system and the network.

44.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the network employs a protocol wherein the [[one of the plurality of devices and the first device each has a]] first identifier [[that]] uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the

computer system and [[a]] the second identifier [[that]] uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is dependent upon the physical configuration of the computer system;

wherein the apparatus further includes a storage device coupled to the at least one controller;

wherein the at least one controller stores the first and second identifiers of the first device in the storage device in response to a login by the first device to the shared resource; and

wherein when the one of the plurality of devices attempts to login to the shared resource after the login by the first device, the at least one controller:

examines a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device;

compares a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device; and

determines that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]] when the value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the second identifier for the first device.

45.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

wherein in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as a first device, the at least one controller determines whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first physical connection; and

wherein when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], the at least one controller denies the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

46.   (Currently amended) [[he]] The apparatus of claim 45, in combination with the storage system, wherein the at least one controller and the input each is disposed within the storage system.

47.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the apparatus includes a filter unit that includes the input and the at least one controller and is adapted to be disposed between the storage system and the network.

48.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

        wherein in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to access the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as a first device, the at least one controller determines whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]]; and

        wherein when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], the at least one controller denies the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

49.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 48, in combination with the storage system, wherein the at least one controller and the input each is disposed within the storage system.

50.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the apparatus includes a filter unit that includes the input and the at least one controller and is adapted to be disposed between the storage system and the network.

51.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

wherein in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to access the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as a first device, the at least one controller determines whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]]; and

wherein when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], the at least one controller denies the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

52.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 51, in combination with the storage system, wherein the at least one controller and the input each is disposed within the storage system.

53.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the apparatus includes a filter unit that includes the input and the at least one controller and is adapted to be disposed between the storage system and the network.

54.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the at least one controller includes:

means, responsive to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to access the shared resource while representing itself to the shared resource as a first device, for determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a first [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component used by the first device to access the shared resource; and

means for denying the attempted access by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the shared resource through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]].

55.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

wherein in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as a first device, the at least one controller determines whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]]; and

wherein when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], the at least one controller denies the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

56.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the shared resource is a storage system;

wherein the act (a) includes an act of, in response to the one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the storage system and representing itself to the storage system as the first device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a first [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that the first device uses to login to the storage system; and

wherein the act (b) includes an act of, when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]], denying the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system.

57.   (Currently amended) An apparatus for use in a computer system including a plurality of devices, a storage system shared by the plurality of devices, and a network that couples the plurality of devices to the storage system, wherein the network employs a protocol wherein each of the

plurality of devices has a first identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and a second identifier that uniquely identifies [[the device in a manner that is dependent upon the physical configuration of the computer system]] a port on at least one network component through which the respective device connects to the network, the apparatus comprising:

an input to be coupled to the network;

a storage device; and

at least one controller, coupled to the network and the storage device, that is responsive to a login of a first device of the plurality of devices to the storage system to store the first and second identifiers of the first device in the storage device;

the at least one controller further being responsive to an attempt, after the login by the first device, by one of the plurality of devices to login to the storage system, while representing itself to the storage system as the first device, to;

examine a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device;

compare a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device;

determine that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a first [[physical connection]] port of the at least one network component used by the first device in logging into the storage system when the value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the second identifier for the first device; and

deny the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]].

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58.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the network is a Fibre Channel

fabric, wherein the first identifier is a world wide name (WWN) and the second identifier is a fabric

identifier (fabric ID);

        wherein the at least one controller stores the WWN and the fabric ID of the first device in

the storage device in response to the login by the first device to the storage system; and

        wherein when the one of the plurality of devices attempts to login to the storage system after

the login by the first device, the at least one controller:

                examines a value of the WWN presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the

        storage system to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself as

        being the first device;

                compares a value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices to

        the stored fabric ID for the first device; and

                determines that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage

        system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component

        that is different than the first port [[physical connection]] when the value of the fabric ID

        presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored fabric ID for the first

        device.

59.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 57, in combination with the storage system, wherein the

at least one controller, the storage device and the input each is disposed within the storage system.

60.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 57, further including a filter unit that includes the input

and the at least one controller and is adapted to be disposed between the storage system and the

network.

61.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the at least one controller includes:

                means, responsive to the login of a first device of the plurality of devices to the storage

system, to store the first and second identifiers of the first device in the storage device;

means, responsive to an attempt, after the login by the first device, by one of the plurality of devices to login to the storage system, while representing itself to the storage system as the first device, for examining a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device and for comparing a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device;

means for determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than a first port [[physical connection]] used by the first device in logging into the storage system when the value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the second identifier for the first device; and

means for denying the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a [[physical connection through]] port of the at least one network component that is different than the first port [[physical connection]].

62.   (Currently amended) An apparatus for use in a computer system including a network and a plurality of devices coupled to the network, the network employing a protocol wherein each of the plurality of devices has a first identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and a second identifier that uniquely identifies [[the device in a manner that is dependent upon the physical configuration of the computer system]] a port of at least one network component at which the respective device is connected, the [[network including]] at least one network component [[that assigns]] assigning a unique value for the second identifier to each of the plurality of devices that is logged into the network, the apparatus comprising:

at least one input to be coupled to at least one of the plurality of devices; and

at least one controller that is responsive to one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the network and representing itself to the network as a first device, to determine whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the network through a port that is different than a

first port of the <u>at least one</u> network <u>component</u> through which the first device previously logged into the network, and to deny the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the network when the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the network through a port of the <u>at least one</u> network <u>component</u> that is different than the first port.

63.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 62, in combination with a network switch to form at least a portion of the network, wherein the at least one controller is disposed within the switch.

64.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the at least one controller prevents at least one of the plurality of devices from transmitting information through the network while representing itself with a value for the second identifier that differs from its value assigned by the at least one network component.

65.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the network is a Fibre Channel fabric, wherein the first identifier is a world wide name (WWN) and the second identifier is a fabric identifier (fabric ID);

        wherein the apparatus further includes a storage device coupled to the at least one controller;

        wherein the at least one controller stores the WWN and the fabric ID of the first device in response to the login of the first device into the network; and

        wherein when the one of the plurality of devices attempts to login to the shared resource after the login by the first device, the at least one controller:

                examines a value of the WWN presented by the one of the plurality of devices during the attempted login to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device;

                compares a value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the fabric ID for the first device; and

                determines that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the network through a port <u>of the at least one network component</u> that is different than the first port when

the value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the fabric ID for the first device.

66.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the apparatus further includes a storage device coupled to the at least one controller;

wherein the at least one controller stores the first and second identifiers of the first device in response to the login of the first device into the network; and

wherein when the one of the plurality of devices attempts to login to the shared resource after the login by the first device, the at least one controller:

examines a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices during the attempted login to determine that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device;

compares a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device; and

determines that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the network through a port of the at least one network component different than the first port when the value of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the second identifier for the first device.